

DEMING HEADLIGHT.

VOL. 13.

DEMING, GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1893.

NO. 19.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

DEMING LODGE, No. 6, I. O. O. F.
Holds regular meetings every Monday evening, at 8 o'clock. Hall over Clark's store, at the corner of Main and Silver streets. All members cordially invited to attend.
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R. T. W. VAUGHN,
Residence, Deming, N. M.
Office: Spruce Street, near Silver Avenue.
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Won't somebody please throw the "Silver City ring" a rope?

Deming is destined to be the coming city of the southwest, despite the petty jealousy of her neighbors.

It is said that brainwork tends to long life. We fear that some of Grant county's politicians are not long for this world.

Deming builders are unusually busy and building operations are going up all over the city. What better sign could be wanted as to our prosperity?

The sentiment for free silver is daily on the increase and the politicians must soon realize that the white metal must be placed upon an equal basis with gold.

The recent financial flurry in Wall street was only local and did not affect the country at large. The people have too much faith in the Democratic administration to become easily excited.

The attempt of the Silver City Sentinel to injure the business interests of Deming by publishing an article reflecting on one of our local enterprises is carrying petty jealousy a little too far.

With two new railroads, Deming will soon fulfill the prediction that she is to be the railroad center of southern New Mexico. And those railroads are coming just as certain as to-morrow will Sunday.

When the population of scores of towns and cities turn out to cheer the old liberty bells when speeches are made, cannons fired and bands played in its honor, it is useless to talk about American patriotism being on the decline.

We hope that the special senate committee appointed to look into the conditions and resources of the different territories won't learn of the record of the recent legislature or action of the members of the would be political triumvirate.

The call of the southwest silver convention is published in another column. It will be held in Silver City July the 4th and 5th and promises to be an important gathering of miners laboring for a common cause.

The Detroit Free Press says "the present administration has thus far done more toward restoring the financial confidence of the country than can be justly credited to the entire record of its immediate predecessor." And this does not appear in the funny man's department either.

The recent lynchings at Las Lunas are simply the natural result of the epidemic of crime which has been prevailing in New Mexico in general and in Valencia county in particular for some weeks past. The authorities appeared to be powerless and the people took the law into their own hands.

D. P. Carr, of Silver City, is out in a card in which he denounces the author of the "T" letters in bitter terms and expresses the opinion that the editor of the HEADLIGHT is but little better for publishing the same. Mr. Carr can rest assured that the editor of the HEADLIGHT isn't annoyed by the matter. Can Mr. Carr say the same?

The governor of Oregon does not appear to have learned the little courtesies of life that go to make up ordinary good manners. His reply to secretary Gresham's official telegram respecting the expected violence to Chinese was rude, ungentlemanly and almost without precedent. The governor probably has a notion that importance is in some way related to gross insolence.

Joseph has done one good thing for New Mexico, if nothing more. He deflected Albritton in his designs on the governor's office and had a gentleman of brains appointed to that responsible position. We have no reason to thank Mr. Joseph for personal favors, but for this favor to New Mexico we ask everyone to thank him.—Springer Stockman.

The suggestion is a good one. But isn't it a matter of doubt whether Joseph's influence was necessary to defeat Albritton? Was it not a case of giving a man rope enough and he would hang himself?

AS TO ARID LANDS.

Principal among the doings of the Inter-Mountain Stock Growers' association which met at Ogden, Utah on the 22nd ultimo, was a discussion as to the best way to dispose of the arid lands of the west, which lands are now devoted to and are only useful for the production of livestock, which industry is now languishing on account of over crowding the ranges, arising from free pasture and the inability of stockmen to secure title to land in large enough tracts to be profitable.

The result was the adoption of a resolution as follows: "Resolved, That we favor the cession of the arid lands by the federal government to the various states and territories in which they lie, making suitable restrictions for the reservation of mining and fertile lands.

"Preparatory to the cession of the arid lands as above we recommend the appointment by the properly constituted federal authority of a commission to determine what are arid lands, as above; and be it further:

"Resolved, That a copy hereof be sent to each member of congress and governors of the several western states and territories and that they are hereby respectfully requested to use every honorable means to bring about the objects herein mentioned."

By this action, the Inter-Mountain Stock Growers Association has officially endorsed the position advocated by the HEADLIGHT for the past two years. It is merely a question of time until such cession is made, and New Mexico given control of the vast areas within her confines. Then and not until then, will the momentous land question be solved.

AS TO THE RIO GRANDE.

Another Communication Upon the All Important Subject of Our Water Supply.

A question of vital importance to the Territory of New Mexico, portions of Texas and Old Mexico, is that of the water supply, which year after year appears to diminish to an alarming extent. After reflection, it seems an unsolvable enigma, why this question of such great interest to all has, to the present moment, lain as it were, hidden in the back-ground. A step in the right direction has been taken, as we observe, by Hon. S. M. Ashenfelter, in a communication of interest published in the Deming HEADLIGHT of April 20th, and later by editorial in other papers. And now let the matter receive the attention justly due it by our citizens who have the interest of the Territory at heart.

During the last campaign the fact that our water is being stolen, and in enormous and wholesale quantities, by the people of the state of Colorado, was made use of by Hon. Thomas B. Catron and Antonio Joseph, candidates for Representative to Congress from this Territory, but was very generally treated as a trumped-up "campaign lie."

The residents of the Mesilla and Rio Grande Valley in this Territory and the El Paso Valley in Texas, have lost thousands of dollars by the failure of the water supply at the moment that it was most needed—entire fruit and garden crops, half matured, time and agula have been lost. Investors have been driven away not by poor lands and boomers, but by the scarcity and uncertainty of the water supply, an evil apparently beyond remedy. Our people deny these misfortunes, and lay the blame at the door of bad managers and scarcity of rainfall, and probe the matter no further, while Colorado schemers and capitalists laugh in their sleeves and grow sleek and fat, good honest farmers dropping in to their coffers, to use the language of paraphrase, and live off the sap of blindness and truthfulness of the honest people of New Mexico and Texas.

Verdant fields as far as the eye can reach line the course of the Rio Grande, we are told throughout its length. In the state of Colorado; but from its entrance into this Territory, on to the southern portion of northwest Texas, the water becomes scarce, and the fields become more and more dry, sickly and scanty, while the cattle find no water with which to moisten their dry and heated tongues and bodies.

I quote Mr. Ashenfelter: "The charge may appear harsh, but it is nevertheless true that the San Luis canal people (of Colorado), and the projectors of similar enterprises designed to still further impoverish the Rio Grande, are no better than downright robbers. Moreover, if this movement is permitted to go unchecked, it will inevitably result in the depopulation of the best portion of New Mexico and Northwestern Texas. The people of this lower Rio Grande, by virtue of prior appropriation, have the first right to the use of that water. That right is not only theirs as American citizens, but in effect, it is guaranteed to them by treaty stipulation. But it is also true that the people of New Mexico and Texas cannot afford to longer rest upon their rights. The legal remedy for the evils from which they now suffer, is to be found in the United States courts; but this remedy must be pursued with reasonable promptitude, in order to be available. We cannot rest upon rights, year after year, and permit southern Colorado to build up vast enterprises and acquire vested interests, without suffering the consequences of our own laches. The remedy, if ever to be applied, must be applied at once. The entire Rio Grande Valley south of the Colorado line, is directly interested; but from Albuquerque to the lower limits of El Paso county in Texas, the demand for relief is most immediate and pressing. The past few years of drought throughout these sections is in a large measure owing to a failure of irrigation and the usual distribution and consequent evaporation of the waters of the Rio Grande. The case is one in which we must be up and doing." * * *

Of late years the annual rain fall has decreased in the territory to a very great and marked extent, and it seems not only possible, but probable, that by investigation we would find that Colorado's rainfall has increased proportionately. Can we be permitted to draw a natural and logical conclusion? Is not rain but the result of evaporation, and can there be rain where water does not exist? Would there not be a periodical season of rain were the Rio Grande constantly running? Surely the snowfall in the mountains of Colorado could not have lately become so slight as to cause such a great and continued scarcity of water in the Rio Grande.

It seems funny, but to us a grim and unpleasant funniness, that we hear no complaints of scarcity of water in Colorado, while in New Mexico and Texas, walls rend the air, instead, as one would logically conclude water would become more abundant as we follow its downward course.

Our people begin to despair and fear that the water failure in the Rio Grande is but one of nature's wild and mad freaks.

In 1897 the San Luis canal, a great and expensive undertaking, was completed, much to the gratification of Coloradoans! This canal is of immense capacity, sixty feet wide, and as Mr. Ashenfelter says, "except [during] the high stages of water in June and July, completely drains the river at a point just below the confluence of the main branches coming out of the Colorado mountains. Not only is this drainage complete, but the water is conducted by this canal onto an entirely different watershed with no seepage and no recovery of surplus into the valley—with the result that all through New Mexico and far down into Texas during the greater part of the year, our people are deprived of water which of right belongs to them."

The prior right—the legal right—of New Mexico and Texas to this water cannot be disputed, and as a question at law, will be the one upon which our rights will be regained and reorganized. These rights of priority will grant us that remedy which we are seeking—but our rights cannot be regained in a day's time. Unfortunately, we are as yet a territory, and under Constitutional provisions, this remedy is not available to us, but to the people of the state of Texas, whose interest are equal to ours, it is available and to them we look for the first step. Mr. Ashenfelter truly says—"the litigation will be expensive. The case will doubtless become one of the most celebrated in the annals of American jurisprudence. It will require able conduct from the outset, for it will be bitterly contested at every step and in all its bearings. Of the necessary means New Mexico will undoubtedly be ready to contribute her proportion. Will the people of El Paso do their part, and do it at once?"

I believe that New Mexico, both by appropriation and subscription, will come forward and enter unreservedly with the great state of Texas, and bring the matter before the people and before the courts. New Mexico's bar includes some of the best legal talent in the west, and who doubtless are willing and ready to enter the contest, who are largely interested in New Mexico's progress and attainment of her rights. These rights, if well presented, cannot but bring us victory, and the appropriation by Colorado people of what is legally ours and justly ours, will be restrained—thus being restrained, the Rio Grande will once more flow freely, rain will fall, cattle and crops will thrive, and our people will become happy and prosperous.

Texas as a people and as a state must forward! New Mexico cannot actively enter the courts, being barred out by Constitutional provisions, but it will in every possible manner aid and assist the great state of the Lone Star.

Citizens of New Mexico, let not your rights be infringed, the bread be taken from yours and your children's mouths, your interests and the interests of your territory lag, rest, and be disregarded. You must make your rights known, and knowing, uphold and demand them, and at the hands of justice, secure them. You cannot forever rest upon these rights, and permit Colorado investors to build up interests entailing the loss of millions, and then come forward and expect an easy victory.

Now is the time; let it not rest, but come forward as men and the people of a great territory, join interests with Texas, demand your rights, and be prepared to encounter great obstacles and overcome them.

HARRY DENNETT.

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THROUGHOUT NEW MEXICO.
Small Bits of News and Gossip Concerning the Different Localities in the Territory.

The fruit of Grant County has been somewhat injured by early frosts.

Don Benigno Jaramillo, ex-sheriff of San Miguel and a prominent politician is dead.

The timber house at Silver City is being repaired and put in shape for the coming silver convention.

The Santa Fe fire department has been re-organized. The city council will aid in its maintenance.

M. Knott, of Santa Fe, has been awarded the contract for supplying the troops at Fort Marcy with fresh beef at \$7.00 per lb.

The Maxwell Grant company are offering terms to miners, which are said to be more liberal than the United States statutes.

Another new strike has been made by the Silver mining company at Lake Valley. It is quite a large deposit of very high grade ore.

The pipe line which connected the new mine with the compressor and water tank at Carthage has been taken up, it being no further use now that the new mine is closed.

The lodge Pythian Sisters recently organized at Las Vegas already has a membership of over fifty and has begun its career under the most favorable circumstances.

The Springer Stockman says that recent snows in the mountains have supplied the miners with water as well as the farmers and ranchmen in the valley below.

The handsome Miller residence at Silver City, occupied by C. P. Crawford, was partially destroyed by fire last Friday afternoon. The loss is about \$5,000; fully covered by insurance.

A report comes from Hachita that turquoise has been discovered there and men will be put to work without delay to develop the mines. The owners think that they have as good claims as those in the Harro Mountains which are producing the finest turquoise in the world.

The Fischer Brewery and artificial ice plant at Santa Fe have been formally transferred to the Santa Fe Brewing company. The incorporators of the company are T. B. Catron, H. C. Stifel, and A. M. Dettelbach, and it has a paid up capital stock of \$25,000. The establishment will at once be enlarged and improved and hereafter kept in constant operation.

Cris Kling, a brakeman, was killed by the cars near Lordsburg last Thursday night. He is supposed to have fallen between the cars. He was not missed for several miles. When the train reached up to where he was he was found alive, mangled and in great agony. Both legs were crushed off across the thighs. He was bleeding badly and soon expired. He was a young man, and unmarried. His body was taken to Lordsburg, Ont., for burial.

Jesse Garcia, Antonio Martinez and Victoriano Aragon, three Mexicans implicated in recent murders in Valencia County, were taken from the jail at Las Lunas last Friday morning and hung to a tree. The crowd is said to have been composed of the best citizens of the town, and was well conducted and orderly. Three other murderers had been released on bail the afternoon previous and thus saved their lives. This lynching is the result of the epidemic of crime which has been prevailing in that county for some weeks. The act seems to have the approval of the territorial press.

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